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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

17 June 1985

NOTE FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM: Herbert E. Meyer
Vice Chairman, NIC

SUBJECT: The Peace Process: A New Opportunity at Last?

As you will see in this memo, Graham Fuller believes there is some slim possibility of progress in the Mid East. We ought to keep in mind the very possible link between the prospect of progress and the current terrorist activity. The TWA hijacking, the attempted assassination in Kuwait, and one or two other incidents may well be part of a coordinated radical response designed explicitly to frustrate US-led efforts to bring some measure of stability to that region. One of our consultants, [redacted] has been all over us during the last month, warning that a rash of terrorist activity was imminent based on his perception that Syria, Libya, and the others could not allow too much progress to happen. [redacted] may well have been correct. In any case, policymakers might wish to bear in mind that there could be a connection between their efforts and these incidents. The implication is that we need not only to respond effectively, but to develop a strategy that will enable us to make diplomatic progress while blocking the inevitable terrorist-type responses. Should these terrorist activities frustrate any movement toward peace, the radicals and the Soviets will achieve their objective at very little cost.

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